

## BISMARCK WAS ALMOST DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Two-Thirds of the Business Houses and One-Half of the Residences Burned—Damage Over \$125,000.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL. De Soto, Mo., March 18.—The town of Bismarck, with 80 inhabitants, thirty-three miles south of St. Louis, on the Iron Mountain Railroad, was almost completely destroyed by fire Monday.

Two-thirds of the business houses were burned and nearly half of the residences. Fire broke out almost simultaneously on the roofs of the post office store, kept by Postmaster St. D. Bryan, and Gottlieb's barber shop, which were in the main block of the front row of buildings on the east side of the railroad, which was the main business part of the town.

The fire on the post office roof was the first put out, but in a few minutes the flames on the barber shop were beyond control. The fire spread to the next store south of the post office, and then to a dozen adjoining buildings, to the Iron Mountain depot, which was almost opposite the post office, and in thirty minutes the telegraph and telephone connections were cut off and the biggest part of the town was in flames. A heavy wind was blowing from the southwest, which fanned the flames into a fury.

FIFTY-TWO BUILDINGS DESTROYED. The town is built of pine frame buildings and thirty-two residences and twenty business houses were destroyed by 1 o'clock, when the fire stopped.

There was no preparation whatever for fighting fire and the flames spread so rapidly that scarcely anybody saved any of their belongings.

Telegraphic and telephone connections were restored about 6 p. m.

The total loss will reach over \$125,000, with less than \$20,000 insurance.

The fire spread to the next store south of the depot and three blocks north and a block or more west of the depot going down early in the fire.

The depot was a fairly good two-story structure, the upstairs being occupied by the train dispatchers and telegraphers.

THOSE WHO SUFFERED HEAVIEST DAMAGES. The City Hotel, occupied by Mr. Heitrich, valued at \$4,000, was destroyed; no insurance.

The Baptist Church, valued at \$1,000, destroyed; no insurance. Union Church, valued at \$1,000; no insurance. James Murphy, dwelling and part of the furniture, \$1,100; insurance, \$300. Ed Walters, residence, damage \$200. C. T. Tullock, residence, \$2,500, lost almost all household goods; some insurance.

A. D. Boss' losses are: Store, \$1,500; stock, \$4,000; \$1,000 insurance on store. L. N. Kirkpatrick lost his dwelling, \$800; no insurance.

L. Blum lost household goods, \$500; no insurance. C. R. Kindall lost residence, \$900; insurance, \$300.

C. T. Manner lost office building, \$600; no insurance. S. L. Rivers lost law library, \$1,000; no insurance.

S. D. Bryan lost store, \$300; no insurance. George Getz, barber shop, \$300; no insurance.

C. R. Kindall lost merchandise, \$2,500; insurance, \$750.

A. Barth lost building occupied by Collier, \$800; no insurance.

Odd Fellows' Hall, Beard's store in first story, \$2,000; insurance, \$500.

The Reverend Jenkins, pastor M. E. Church, lost all his household goods; no insurance.

James Ross lost all his furniture.

The Misses Riley lost nearly all their millinery stock.

F. Roderick of Middlebrook lost the Commercial Hotel, Scope's saloon, Doctor Norwin's office and three store buildings, valued at \$12,000, with \$3,000 insurance.

Joseph Collier lost his house, valued at \$1,500; no insurance.

A. J. Perelle lost furniture, \$500; no insurance.

Charles Leggett lost lumber shed and stock, \$2,000; no insurance; and hardware stock and building, \$1,200; insurance, \$1,000.

Henry Bishpingshoff lost two residences and store, \$2,800; no insurance.

August Block lost store occupied by Aniff & Co., \$800; no insurance.

Aniff & Co. lost stock, \$300; no insurance.

George W. Clarkson lost new residence, \$1,200; insurance, \$800. Mr. Clarkson lost

residence about six months ago by fire.

Doctor Norwin had instruments, library and furniture valued at \$3,500, and saved all but \$5.

SEVERAL HUNDRED ARE HOMELESS. The fire had swept most everything in its wake and ceased to burn by 1 p. m. Residents claim that the fire started from sparks from the engine on the main track of the railroad, on account of the closely built frame buildings, the insurance rate was so high that very few people had insurance.

No one was seriously hurt, though several women fainted. Several hundred persons are rendered homeless by this disaster, but all will be taken care of by those who were not burned out. The loss cannot be accurately estimated at this time. A large number of losses could not be found and listed.

ILLINOIS TOWN WIPED OUT. Jeffersonville, Ind., March 18.—Memphis, Ind., was almost totally destroyed by fire today. Only ten houses remain and scores of families are homeless. The fire started from a spark falling from a stove factory smokestack. The loss is estimated at \$300,000.

## KISS AND A HUG COST HIM \$1,500.

Indianapolis Jury Fixes the Value of a Stolen Kiss and a Good Round Figure.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 18.—The market price for a stolen kiss and an embrace was today fixed at \$1,500 by a jury in Judge McMaster's branch of the Superior Court in deciding Lillian Bonnell's action for \$2,000 damages against James C. Wheat, formerly in charge of Post Office Station A. Mrs. Bonnell charged that Wheat forcibly entered her apartments near the post office on January 28, 1898, while her husband was away at work, and pressed a kiss upon her lips and embraced her. Wheat resigned his position as a result of the escapade.

BENJAMIN HARRISON'S WILL. Estate Is Left to Little Daughter and Grandchildren.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL. Indianapolis, Ind., March 18.—Much interest centers in the will of General Benjamin Harrison, which lies in the safe vault of the Fletcher National Bank in this city, with other private papers. The will was drawn in 1899, before he left for Paris to appear in the peace conference. The witnesses were Howard Cale, W. H. H. Miller and Harry J. Milligan.

Mr. Will will file the will for probate within a few days. Until it has been filed, nothing will be done. It is believed that the relatives here, who will assemble to hear the will read, will be a large number.

It is learned from a reliable source that the bulk of the estate is left in trust for the little daughter, Elizabeth Harrison, and her grandchildren—Benjamin Harrison McKee and the son and daughter of Russell H. Harrison. It is said that the estate amounts to about \$200,000.

SUICIDE OF SCHOOL TEACHER. Miss Nellie Reed Swallows Carbolic Acid.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL. Rushville, Ill., March 18.—Miss Nellie Reed, young lady living with her well-to-do parents, northwest of this city, committed suicide Sunday morning by drinking carbolic acid. Miss Reed has taught for several years very successfully and was one of the most accomplished young ladies in Schuyler County. Last year she attended Europe College. It is believed that overwork while there effected her mind.

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## SCORE HURT IN IOWA TRAIN WRECK.

Tender, Mail Car and Two Passenger Coaches of Rock Island Train Left Track.

TUMBLED INTO POOL OF WATER

Many of the Passengers Were Seriously Injured and Several Fatalities May Result—Victims Taken to Grand Junction.

Grand Junction, Ia., March 18.—A Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific passenger train, No. 2 northbound, was wrecked today two miles from this place.

The tender, the mail car and two passenger coaches went into the ditch, turning upon their sides, and are now lying in a shallow pool of water. The locomotive remained upon the track.

A score or more of the passengers were injured, several of them being seriously hurt.

The injured: Celia Webber, Paton, Ia.; arm broken; condition serious.

Mrs. Hall, Stuart, Ia.; serious.

C. B. Grant, Fort Dodge, Ia.; serious.

W. L. McCall, Fort Dodge, Ia.; hurt about head.

Lee York Des Moines; back hurt.

W. D. Phillips; not broken.

E. L. McCool, Des Moines; cut over eye; not serious.

J. W. Young, Des Moines; leg bruised.

Joseph E. T. Tildieva, Ill.; hurt on head.

Fred Bulfe, Des Moines; back hurt.

William Baldantine, Des Moines; arm cut; back hurt.

F. F. Luther, Grand Junction; hurt internally.

Richard Wiltz; face cut.

Several others, whose names could not be learned, were more or less painfully injured.

The train was running at full speed when the accident occurred. A loose rail is supposed to have caused the wreck.

Strangely enough, all of the trainmen escaped serious injury, and they, with the passengers, were not badly hurt, lent immediate aid to the injured.

Richard Wiltz of Grand Junction ran back to the depot here for assistance. Five surgeons were sent to the scene of the wreck on Sunday morning.

The passengers who were less seriously injured walked back to this city and those who were unable to walk were brought in on a stretcher improvised by connecting the two handcars with a farm gate, pulled fast.

BIDS WERE TOO HIGH.

Departure of Cavalry Delayed by a Horse Famine.

Omaha, Neb., March 18.—On account of a horse famine, the sending of the First Cavalry to the Philippines may have to be deferred for two or three months.

This regiment is one of the five cavalry regiments provided for in the new army bill and is in the course of organization at Fort Leavenworth.

Of the six bids received for horses for this regiment the average was \$18 per head, as against \$45 to \$50 which the Government has heretofore been paying. The bids were all received from private sources.

The bids were not confined to the territory covered by the Department of the Missouri, but are to extend over the entire Middle West. Owing to the urgent need for animals, bids are to be received by telegram.

NEGROES GOING TO HAWAII.

Colony of 100 Raised in Tennessee to Work Sugar Plantations.

Knoxville, Tenn., March 18.—A colony of 100 negroes left Knoxville today for Hawaii under a three-year contract to the Hawaiian Islands, which has been made by the Hawaiian government.

The party was raised by S. B. Maples, an intelligent negro, who goes with the colonists.

In raising the party an attempt was made to include whole families, for the reason that the company has difficulty in making negroes without families stay on the plantation. The attempt was partially successful.

Others Mentioned for Appointment.

From the same source of information that the names of the above four men were secured came the information that no other names will be considered for the position of the commission.

The five will probably be taken from different sections of the State, and probably not less than two from each of the four mentioned.

The five mentioned are F. M. Sterrett, ex-Senator Fred W. Mott and A. F. Shriner, secretary of the Republican State Committee, all Republicans, with the exception of the last named.

Joseph H. Hawthorne is a Virginian of magnificent physique. He is a lawyer and has been indefatigable in securing legislation for Kansas City. He has great strength among the secret orders of Missouri and has been a member of the House for two terms, where his acumen has placed him at the head of the minority.

Frank C. Bickles of Unionville is a Missourian by birth. He has held the office of Prosecuting Attorney in both Schuyler and Putnam counties. He has been a member of the House for two terms.

H. E. GOFF'S SUDDEN DEATH.

Falls Dead as He Starts to Rise From Table.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL. Nevada, Mo., March 18.—Just as he started to rise from a supper table today evening, H. E. Goff, an old and wealthy farmer of Vernon County, fell to the floor, dead. He was years of age, and had been a resident of this county for twenty years, having moved here from the State of California.

## FOUR COMMISSIONERS PRACTICALLY NAMED.

Governor Dockery Said to Have Decided on Morton, Hall, Hawthorne and Sickles.

LAST TWO ARE REPUBLICANS.

Other Five World's Fair Appointees, It Is Understood, Will Not Be Members of the Legislature.

REPUBLICAN SPECIAL. Jefferson City, Mo., March 18.—Governor Dockery has not officially announced the names of the nine World's Fair Commissioners to be appointed under the act of the General Assembly, but there is general understanding that the following four will be named within the next few days: Senator John P. Morton of Richmond, Mo.; Representative Mat W. Hall of Marshall, Mo.; Representative Joseph H. Hawthorne of Kansas City, Mo.; and Representative Frank C. Sickles of Unionville, Mo.

Interest in the appointments to the World's Fair Commission has been growing during the last few days of the Assembly. While the positions are of great honor, the liberality of the framers of the bill in allowing the Commissioners \$10,000 salary and \$5 a day expense money does not lessen the attractiveness of the berth.

Two men were conspicuous for their energetic work in having the bill pass both branches of the Assembly. Senator John P. Morton was chairman of the World's Fair Committee in the Senate and saw that the bill was passed.

The bill was passed by a large majority in the House, and because of the larger number of the Commissioners \$10,000 salary and \$5 a day expense money does not lessen the attractiveness of the berth.

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## GALE-DRIVEN FIRE WIPES OUT THREE BLOCKS ON RIVER FRONT.

Property Worth Nearly \$200,000 Destroyed and Four Persons Injured—Seven Dwellings Burned.



Wreckage of freight cars destroyed by the burning of the repair shops of the American Car and Foundry Company.

Flames, driven by a high south wind, swept through three blocks of buildings along the river front Monday afternoon, starting north from Zepp street.

The Anheuser-Busch icehouse, the repair shops of the American Car and Foundry Company, the Eagle Pickle Works and seven residences were totally destroyed, besides a large amount of miscellaneous property. The total loss is placed at about \$200,000.

Four persons were painfully injured while the fire was in progress and several others were compelled to flee in haste to save their lives. More than three hours of hard fighting by the entire available force of the fire department was required to check the progress of the conflagration. Houses were set on fire by flying cinders as far away as Broadway while the flames were at their height.

The fire started at 12:25 p. m. at the south end of the icehouse, a story-and-a-half frame structure, about fifty feet high. Officer Ed Steinberg of the Second District was walking the beat and started on a run for the alarm box at Cherokee and De Kalb streets. Before he reached it the flames had spread almost over the entire roof, the fire GENERAL ALARM IS TURNED IN.

Seeing that a serious conflagration was imminent, he turned in two alarms. Engine Company No. 3 was the first to respond, and ran its hose from a fire plug at Cherokee and Kosciusko streets to the north end of the building, hoping to stop the spread of the flames. The hose had scarcely been laid, however, when the fire spread down to the north end of the building, and the burning continued with the southern end of the repair shops, and in the meantime the flames had spread to the interior of the repair shops, in spite of the water which Company No. 3 and several other engines which had arrived on the scene poured in upon them.

A general alarm was turned in a few minutes after the first alarm.

Before the arrival of other engines the fire of several companies were forced to withdraw from the repair shops and temporarily leaving several lines of hose, which were consumed by the flames. With the arrival of other engines every fire plug for blocks around was occupied and the burning continued with the force of a hurricane.

Engines Nos. 16 and 39 were sent down to the river bank and drew their water directly from the river. Scarcely of water could be obtained from the pumps at once, and the department at first, but the flames were beyond control in any case at the time, and several engines turned their attention to the burning adjoining property.

Several dwellings on Cherokee street, commencing with No. 121 on that street, caught fire from the repair shops and were soon destroyed. The flames spread thence to the Eagle Pickle Works at Cherokee and Kosciusko streets, which were cleaned out in fifteen minutes. The brick dwelling No. 121 on Cherokee street caught fire about the same time and was partially destroyed, while three smaller brick dwellings in the rear were utterly destroyed.

The fire broke out at 3 o'clock and a line of hose was run up to the repair shops. By this time the place was in ruins, but the firemen continued to play the hose, hoping to keep the fire under control. At 4 o'clock the flames were sufficiently subdued to assure the firemen that there would be no further spread of the flames and several companies withdrew.

The American Car and Foundry Company sheds are said to have suffered to the extent of \$20,000, with the contents, but the estimate is based on the freight cars known to have been inside at the time. The plant itself was valued at about \$15,000. The Anheuser-Busch icehouse was estimated at \$100,000, according to Edward Faust of the company, but the value of the contents is said to be much greater, including a quantity of dressed meats.

The Eagle Pickle